DC'S I KNOW WHAT YOU DID
LAST CRISIS
DC'S I KNOW WHAT YOU DID
LAST CRISIS
13+ TEEN
1
DC'S I KNOW WHAT YOU DID
LAST CRISIS

DC'S I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST CRISIS

BATGIRL IN
"WHAT KIND OF HERO?"
Written by CAVAN SCOTT
Art by ARIO ANINDITO
Color by CARRIE STRACHAN
Letters by ARIANA MAHER

DR. LIGHT IN
"A CONSTANT STATE OF HEALING"
Written by NATHAN CAYANAN
Art by V KEN MARION
Color by ANDREW DALHOUSE
Letters by JOSH REED

THE BIRDS OF PREY IN
"DEARLY DEPARTED"
Written by ASHLEY ALLEN
Pencils by JOSE LUIS
Inks by JONAS TRINDADE
Color by BIG DOORS STUDIOS
Letters by CARLOS M. MANGUAL

THE JSA IN
"AT THE POINT OF VANISHING"
Written by MATTHEW LEVINE
Art by JORDI TARRAGONA
Color by LUIS GUERRERO
Letters by DAVE SHARPE

NIGHTWING IN
"CRISIS OBSCURA"
Written by DAN DiDIO
Art by M.L. SANAPO
Color by HI-FI
Letters by CARLOS M. MANGUAL

SCARECROW IN
"JUMP SCARE"
Written by RACHEL PINNELAS
Art by WILL ROBSON
Color by ANDREW DALHOUSE
Letters by CLAYTON COWLES

LEX LUTHOR IN
"GOD'S CHOSEN MAN"
Written by DAVE WIELGOSZ
Art by SID KOTIAN
Color by PATRICIO DELPECHE
Letters by TOM NAPOLITANO

MIDNIGHTER IN
"VIOLENT TENDENCIES"
Written by REX OGLE
Art by ADAM GRAPHITE
Color by IVAN PLASCENCIA
Letters by FERRAN DELGADO

Cover by
DAN HIPP

Variant Covers by
EJIKURE
NICOLA SCOTT & ANNETTE KWOK

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER. SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

ALL IN

© & ™ DC.

Written by **SCOTT SNYDER** • Art and cover by **NICK DRAGOTTA**

An all-new vision of the **Dark Knight** starts in **OCTOBER**

GOTHAM CITY. JULY 1985.
THE CITY IS SILENT, THE STREETS EMPTY. EVEN THE CRIMINALS HAVE STAYED HOME.
CAN'T BLAME THEM. WHAT'S THE POINT WHEN THERE WON'T BE A TOMORROW?
SO WHY AM I STILL HERE? STANDING GUARD?
A HERO WITH NO ONE TO SAVE.
BUT THAT'S NOT EXACTLY TRUE, IS IT?
THIS STORY TAKES PLACE BETWEEN THE PAGES OF CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS #4. --MMC
KRRRGSH
THERE'S AN ENTIRE WORLD TO SAVE. A WORLD DISINTEGRATING BEFORE OUR EYES... DISAPPEARING INTO ANTI-MATTER...
AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO STOP IT. NOT WHEN I'M THIS SCARED. THIS HELPLESS.
PERHAPS THAT'S THE BIGGEST QUESTION OF ALL...
WHAT KIND OF HERO IS BATGIRL WHEN ALL HOPE IS LOST? WHO AM I THEN?

EEEEEEEEE!
A HERO WHO STILL HAS A JOB TO DO, BY THE SOUND OF IT.
THANKS, GOTHAM.
YOU NEVER LET ME DOWN.
HI.
AA!
NO. DON'T BE AFRAID. I HEARD YOU SCREAM.
WHAT'S WRONG?
THERE'S A M-MONSTER. IN THE BASEMENT.
IT HAS MY MOM AND DAD.
SHOW ME.

IT'S D-DOWN THERE.
FINALLY SOMETHING THAT MAKES SENSE IN ALL THE CHAOS.
BE CAREFUL!
SOMETHING I UNDERSTAND.
SMASH
AAH!
MONSTERS I CAN HANDLE--
--ESPECIALLY THIS ONE.

RAAAR!!
FRAGILE
KILLER CROC!
B-BATGIRL, PLEASE. YOU HAVE TO HELP US!
WE HEARD IT CRASHING AROUND! TRYING TO SMASH ITS WAY INTO OUR HOME!
WHSH
REALLY, WAYLON? BREAKING AND ENTERING AS THE WORLD ENDS?
CAN'T YOU LEAVE PEOPLE ALONE, TONIGHT OF ALL NIGHTS?

ALONE?
SWPP
WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT BEING ALONE?
KRASSH
CROC?
CROC, WHERE ARE YOU?
HM. GUESS YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE TO WORK OUT HOW HE GOT UP HERE.
STAY WITH YOUR PARENTS.
BUT HE TOOK KRYPTO.
JUST... STAY!

SHOULD CONSIDER MYSELF LUCKY.
WHO ELSE GETS TO SPEND THE APOCALYPSE CRAWLING THROUGH THE CITY'S SEWERS?
A JOB FOR SUPERGIRL, MAYBE?
NO, LINDA'S BUSY.
EEE EEE
CREEEK
ALTHOUGH, WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR A LITTLE INVULNERABILITY ABOUT NOW.
THESE TUNNELS LOOK FIT TO COLLAPSE.
RRRRRRRRR...
ANTI-MATTER REALLY IS THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING!

RRAH!
WHY CAN'T YOU LET ME BE?
NHH--YOU SCARED THOSE PEOPLE!
THAM
THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN JUST DO WHAT YOU WANT.
TAKE WHAT YOU WANT!
BRAKK
CRACK
WHAT YOU GONNA DO? LOCK ME UP?
ARKHAM'S GONE...ALONG WITH MOST OF THE CITY!
HNNG--
THOK
BUT YOU SHOWED ME WHO I AM, WHEN IT MATTERED.
SUPPOSE I SHOULD BE GRATEF--

KRYPTO!
KRRREAK
WAIT-- I TOLD YOU TO STAY WITH YOUR MOM AND DAD.
IT'S NOT SAFE DOWN HERE. THE CEILING COULD GIVE WAY AT ANY--
RUUMBLE
NO!
KROOM
NO.
COULDN'T SAVE HER. RIGHT AT THE END.
I COULDN'T EVEN SAVE A LITTLE GIRL!

YOU DIDN'T NEED TO, BATGIRL--
KROOOSH
--HE DID.
DIDN'T MEAN TO CAUSE TROUBLE. JUST WANTED TO HIDE FROM THE LIGHT. SOMEPLACE SAFE. SOMEPLACE WARM.
I... I...
HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE ALONE.
I KNOW.
BUT HE'S NOT...
WE'RE HERE. I'M HERE.
AND BARBARA GORDON FINALLY RECEIVES HER ANSWER. AT THE END OF THE WORLD...

WHAT KIND OF HERO?

WRITER	ARTIST	COLORS	LETTERS	EDITOR
CAVAN SCOTT	ARIO ANINDITO	CARRIE STRACHAN	ARIANA MAHER	MICHAEL McCALISTER

WHEN I WAS EIGHT, DOCTORS DISCOVERED I HAD A TWISTED SPINE.
SCOLIOSIS IS THE TECHNICAL TERM.
THE THIGH BONE'S CONNECTED TO THE HIP BONE.
KRKK
=MLP!=
BY THE TIME I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, I HAD GONE THROUGH THREE SURGERIES, AND STILL--
--THE DOCTORS WARNED ME I'D FEEL AT LEAST A LITTLE PAIN FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
THE HIP BONE'S CONNECTED TO THE BACKBONE.
=MMPH! MMPH!=
AT NIGHT, I'D LIE IN BED FOR HOURS, UNABLE TO SLEEP.
I FELT LIKE I WAS BEING STABBED BY A THOUSAND KNIVES.
=MMMPH?=
DEM BONES, DEM BONES, DEM DRY BONES.
=NNNGG!=
MY GRANDMOTHER, THIS TOUGH OLD WOMAN WHO SURVIVED HIROSHIMA, WOULD COME INTO MY ROOM BECAUSE SHE'D HEAR ME CRYING.
SHE'D HOLD ME, ROCK ME TO SLEEP, AND WHISPER, "DON'T CRY, KIMI-CHAN.
"THE PAIN IS PART OF THE HEALING."
NOW SHAKE DEM SKELETON BONES!
=MMYAAHH!=

S.T.A.R. LABS.
THIS TECHNOLOGY IS CENTURIES AHEAD OF OURS, J'ONN.
THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF BIOENGINEERING AND CYBERNETICS. I COULD SWEAR I WAS STARING AT COMMISSIONER GORDON.
AGREED, DR. LIGHT. IT'S IMPORTANT WE LEARN AS MUCH AS WE CAN ABOUT THESE MANHUNTERS DURING THIS CURRENT CONFLICT.*
IT WAS SHORTSIGHTED OF BATMAN TO JUST DISPOSE OF THIS ONE.
UGH, I CANNOT STAND THAT MAN. EVERY TIME I SEE HIM, HE TREATS ME LIKE I JUST HIJACKED THE BATMOBILE.
I ADMIT, HE CAN BE DISAGREEABLE.
BUT HE'S USED TO PEOPLE BEING INTIMIDATED BY HIS MERE PRESENCE.
YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, REMAIN ASSERTIVE AND HAVE NO PROBLEM SPEAKING YOUR MIND.
GRRKK
*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING THE MILLENNIUM EVENT. --MMC
I'M SURE HIS TREATMENT OF YOU IS A SIGN OF HIS RESPECT.
UH-HUH. WELL, THE "CAPED CRUSADER" CAN TAKE HIS RESPECT AND SHOVE IT UP HIS--
BLNNK
--GREAT--

EVERYONE ALL RIGHT OUT HERE?
WHAT'S THAT *AWFUL* SMELL?
SORRY, DEAR DOCTOR. JUST CLEANING UP SOME VOMIT BEFORE EVERYTHING WENT DARK.
JEEZ, MANNY, YOU *SCARED* ME! WAIT, HOLD ON, WHO'S THROWING UP IN *MY LAB?*
OH, YOU KNOW HOW IT GOES. HIGH-STRESS JOB. SMART PEOPLE WORKING THEMSELVES *TO THE BONE*. REALLY SCREWS THEM UP ON THE INSIDE.
DON'T WORRY, THOUGH. I PUT THEM OUT OF THEIR MISERY.
WHAT IN THE--?!
SHOW ME YOUR HANDS *NOW*, OR-- DEAR *GOD!*
GOD? OH, NO, DEAR DOCTOR. NOT GOD. AND NOT MANNY, EITHER.
YOU CAN CALL ME *CORMAC MANHUNTER!*
AND NO MAN ESCAPES THE MANHUNTERS!

HOW COULD YOU? ALL THESE PEOPLE. YOU MONSTER!
MONSTER? WHY, DEAR DOCTOR, I'M INSULTED!
I'D LIKE TO THINK I HAVE A SPECIAL BOND WITH YOU HUMANS.
GAHHH!
I'VE BEEN ON EARTH FOR CENTURIES, AND I DON'T SHARE MY COMRADES' BLACK-AND-WHITE VIEW OF THE WORLD.
WE MANHUNTERS WERE DESIGNED BY ENGINEERS AND ASSEMBLED IN FACTORIES...
=HH HH!= DAMN IT, TOO DARK. MY POWERS--
I NEED LIGHT!
YOU HUMANS, HOWEVER, WERE CREATED BY THE COSMIC COLLISION OF MATTER.
YOU'RE A CONSEQUENCE OF FATE. THE RESULT OF AN ETERNITY OF PAINFUL EVOLUTION.
THERE'S POETRY IN THAT, POETRY MY FELLOW MANHUNTERS JUST DO NOT GRASP.
BUT ME?
NO--
I SEE SO MUCH UNDERNEATH THAT SKIN!
=MMNNGG!=

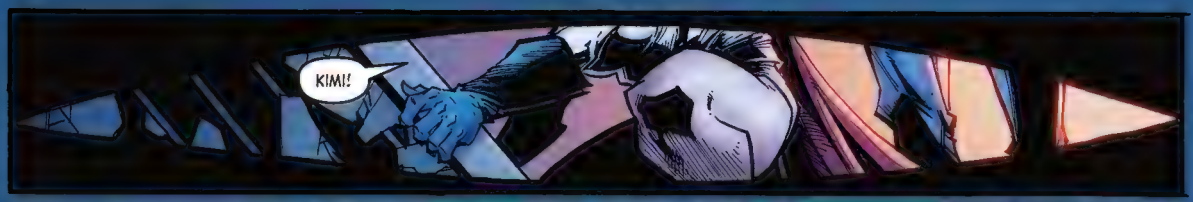
THE FOOT BONE'S CONNECTED TO THE SHIN BONE.
CLIKITY CLIKITY CLAK BLOONG
THE SHIN BONE'S CONNECTED TO THE KNEE BONE.
=KOFF KOFF!=
CLIKITY CLIKITY CLAK BLOONG
UGH-- WHAT'S--?
AH, GOOD, YOU'RE FINALLY AWAKE!
STAR
STOP RIGHT THERE!
ACTUALLY, DOCTOR, I WOULDN'T--
GAHHH!
ZZSTRAK
AS I WAS SAYING, I WOULDN'T DO THAT IF I WERE YOU.
I'VE INSTALLED SOLAR PANELS THAT ARE WIRED DIRECTLY INTO YOUR VEINS.
SO IF YOU USE YOUR POWERS, ZAP! THOUSANDS OF VOLTS PULSING THROUGHOUT YOUR BODY, FROM YOUR HEAD TO YOUR TOES.
=KFF KFF=

YOU SHOULD'VE KILLED ME! YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S COMING YOUR WAY!
AH, MY SUPERIORS WARNED ME YOU WERE-- STUBBORN.
SO WHEN THEY ORDERED ME TO INTERCEPT THIS SKULL, I KNEW I HAD TO BE CREATIVE.
BY THE WAY, I'M GOING TO NEED THE PASSWORD TO YOUR COMPUTER SYSTEMS.
THOUGHT I'D DELETE ALL THE DATA YOU FOUND AND LEAVE A VIRUS FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.
PASSWORD INCOR
ENTER
YOU'RE PRETTY DELUSIONAL FOR A ROBOT.
YOU HUMANS ARE SO FASCINATING. YOU DON'T THINK WITH LOGIC. YOU THINK WITH SOMETHING ELSE.
YOU KNOW, IN MY EARLY YEARS ON EARTH, I MET A MAN.
A BRILLIANT PHILOSOPHER, WHO, DESPITE FINDING SUCH BEAUTY IN LIFE, DESTROYED HIS BODY WITH WHISKEY AND RUM.
SNAP
DURING ONE OF HIS DRUNKEN STUPORS, I ASKED HIM WHAT IT MEANT TO BE HUMAN.
HE SMILED, HELD HIS HAND OVER HIS HEART, AND SAID, "THE ANSWER IS OFTEN HIDDEN, BUT WE ALWAYS KNOW WHERE IT IS."
I REALIZED YOU ALL SAW SOMETHING WE MANHUNTERS DID NOT. I WAS OBSESSED!
SO I TOOK A KNIFE, CUT HIS CHEST OPEN, AND HELD HIS HEART UNTIL IT SLOWLY STOPPED BEATING.
THAT WAS THE ANSWER. THE HUMAN EXPERIENCE IS SO MEANINGFUL BECAUSE, IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE--

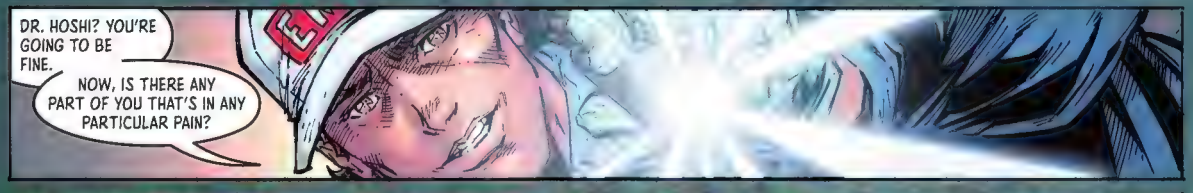
--IT CAN COME TO AN END!
AARRGH!
DARYL!
SHRANK
LOOK, HURT ME. CUT ME UP. WHATEVER YOU WANT. JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE.
NNNGGG...
YOU ALWAYS NEED TO BE IN CONTROL, DON'T YOU?
YOU HAVE NO LEVERAGE HERE. NONE!
AFTER ALL THIS TIME ON EARTH, I KNOW YOU HUMANS AND WHAT WILL MAKE YOU OBEDIENT DOGS.
FEAR.
FEAR OF YOUR FRAGILITY. OF THE PAIN I CAN INFLICT. AND NOT JUST ON YOU.
SO, DEAR DOCTOR. PASSWORD. PLEEAASSE.
TAP TAP
...YASUANDIMAKO.
AH YES. YOUR CHILDREN. HOW CLICHÉ.
I'M SO SORRY. I WON'T LET HIM HURT ANY OF YOU ANYMORE.
DON'T FEEL SO DEFEATED, DEAR DOCTOR. AFTER ALL, IT'S IN YOUR NATURE TO--
BEEP
delete
return
shift
SYSTEM SHUTDOWN
ACTIVATED
NOOOOO!
KKRRSSHH

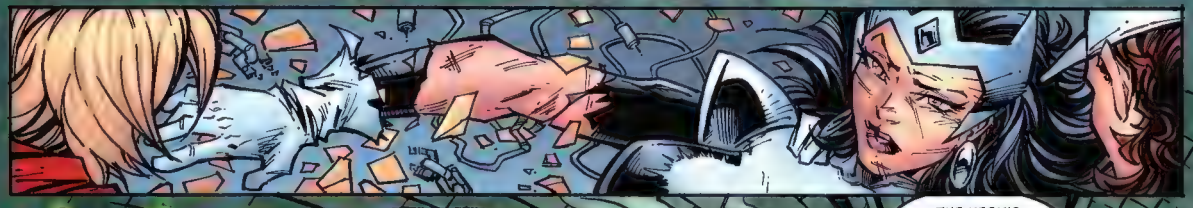
YOU THINK YOU'RE CLEVER?!
KRAK
I WILL ENJOY *MUTILATING* YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS, LIMB BY LIMB.
PKOW
GAHHH!
YOU WILL FEEL *EVERYTHING* AS MY BLADE CUTS INTO YOUR BONES.
I *PROMISE* YOU THAT!
=HH HH HH=
I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING, YOU TALK A PRETTY GOOD GAME.
BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU *THINK* YOU HAVE US ALL FIGURED OUT.
YOU USE PAIN AND FEAR TO COERCE PEOPLE INTO DOING WHATEVER YOU WANT? FINE.
BUT HERE'S THE DEAL--

VRRRRVVKKSSSHH
--I'M NOT AFRAID OF THE PAIN!
=HH HHE
UGH--
"DON'T CRY, KIMI-CHAN."
KIMI?!



J'ONN TOLD US ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO S.T.A.R. LABS WERE DOWN. WE GOT HERE AS FAST AS WE COULD.
YOU'RE A HERO, KIM!
CHECK ON THOSE SCIENTISTS!
EMT





A Constant State of Healing

NATHAN CAYANAN *WRITER*
V KEN MARION *ARTIST*
ANDREW DALHOUSE *COLORS*
JOSH REED *LETTERS*
MICHAEL McCALISTER *EDITOR*

THE BOWERY, GOTHAM CITY.
CANARY. I'VE TRACKED THE MISSING PERSONS CASE TO AN APARTMENT BUILDING A FEW BLOCKS WEST OF JEZEBEL CENTER.
BASED ON THE VICTIMS' PROFILES, IT LOOKS LIKE CRANE'S UP TO HIS REGULAR M.O.
YOU'LL HAVE TO GO IN BLIND. I'M NOT SEEING ANY CAMERAS INSIDE.
*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING THE EVENTS OF THE FINAL NIGHT. --MMC
I NEED YOU TO TAKE CARE OF THIS QUICKLY. THERE'S ALREADY A ROBBERY IN PROGRESS AT ACE CHEMICALS.
I WISH I COULD SEND BACKUP, BUT EVERY CROOK SEEMS TO KNOW WE'RE SPREAD THIN. THEY'RE TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE SUN BEING BLOCKED OUT.
SORRY, CANARY, IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG NIGHT.
ROGER THAT. SEEMS SIMPLE ENOUGH--
328
THE CLOCK TOWER.
MY GOD--
CANARY! WHAT'S WRONG? I DON'T HAVE EYES. WHAT ARE YOU SEEING?
SHIP FROZEN IN PANAMA CANAL--
PASSENGERS STRANDED IN YUKON--
CITIZENS SWARM TITANS TOWER--
RECORD OUTBREAK OF CRIME--
DAILY P

ONE. TWO. THREE. FOUR. FIVE. I CAUGHT A HARE ALIVE.
IT'S SCARECROW. HE'S... HE'S NOT OUR GUY.
NOT OUR GUY? CANARY, I'M GOING TO NEED MORE THAN THAT TO WORK WITH.
SIX. SEVEN. EIGHT. NINE. TEN. I LET HER GO AGAIN.
HE'S TERRIFIED.
THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT. CRANE SHOULD BE IMMUNE TO HIS OWN FEAR TOXIN.
WHY DID YOU LET HER GO?
YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF THERE. NOW.
I CAN'T LEAVE THEM HERE. DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE QUICK.
WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE RECKLESS. WE'RE ALREADY STRETCHED TOO THIN.
QUIET! THE HAG COMES.

OH, CRANE. ANOTHER GIFT FOR ME?
ORACLE, WHITE-HAIRED GHOST LADY.
WHO IS SHE?
DO YOU COPY?!
SORRY, CANARY. MULTITASKING-- EXPLOSION IN LONDON.
HOLD HER OFF. I'M LOOKING, I'M LOOKING.
SILVER BANSHEE. HAS GONE TOE-TO-TOE WITH SUPERMAN. SUPER-STRENGTH. RESISTANT TO INJURY. TELEPORTATION. AND A SONIC--
SHREEEEEEEEEEK
I'M FAMILIAR WITH THE CONCEPT.
ORACLE. SOMETHING'S WRONG.

I'VE BEEN EXPOSED.
LITTLE HERO, YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED AWAY. THE CRONE DEMANDS A SACRIFICE AND IT DID NOT HAVE TO BE YOU.
SEVERING TIES TO THE NETHERWORLD IS NEVER WITHOUT A PRICE. BUT YOUR FEAR WILL BE MY FINAL OFFERING.
AND IN EXCHANGE, I AM FREE. MORE POWERFUL THAN BEFORE.
SHAKE SHAKE
DO YOU THINK THAT ANTIDOTE WILL WORK?
CRANE'S TOXIN WAS A GOOD BASE. BUT WHAT CAN'T BE ELEVATED THROUGH MAGICAL MEANS?
IT'S NOT WORKING!
GET OUT OF THERE! WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO BANISH HER.

CLOSEST EXIT IS 304. BLUEPRINT SAYS THE DOOR SHOULD BE FARTHEST ON YOUR LEFT.
STAY CALM, CANARY.
EASIER SAID THAN DONE.
TUG
DINAH. PLEASE... PLEASE HELP ME.
HELP ME.
HELP ME.
HELP ME.

DINAH. DON'T RUN. DON'T LEAVE ME.
LEAVE ME.
LEAVE ME.
LEAVE ME.
AAARRRGH
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE ME?
WHY DID YOU LEAVE ME?
LOOK AT ME!
I CAN'T!
I CAN'T SAVE YOU!
YOU'RE NOT REAL! THIS ISN'T REAL!
I WISH YOU WERE, OLLIE.

YOU'RE SO CLOSE, DINAH. YOU HAVE TO KEEP GOING.
THERE'S A STAIRWELL TWO DOORS DOWN TO YOUR RIGHT. THREE FLOORS AND YOU'RE OUT.
DINAH?
YEAH... YEAH, OKAY.
THERE'S NO DOOR.
THERE IS, DINAH. I PROMISE YOU.
THE TOXIN IS AFFECTING YOUR PERCEPTION.
TRUST ME.
HELLO THERE, DARLING.
READY TO FINISH THIS?

SCREEEEEEECH
POOR CANARY. LOOK AT ME.
LOOK AT YOUR DOWNFALL.
A PITY YOU'VE LOST YOUR SHRIEK.
YOU KNOW, WE'RE QUITE SIMILAR. THE NETHERWORLD SHOULD ACCEPT YOU AS AN EQUAL TRADE.
A PITY YOU'VE BECOME RELIANT ON YOURS.

PERSONALLY? I'VE NEVER NEEDED IT.
I CAN MANAGE MY FEARS, BANSHEE. CAN YOU?
THIS ENTIRE TIME I'VE BEEN RUNNING, I'VE NOTICED YOU REFUSE TO ENTER YOUR OWN SUMMONING CIRCLE.
WHAT ARE YOU? AFRAID?
DON'T YOU DARE. YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU TAMPER WITH--
OOPS.
I'LL LEAVE HER TO YOU.

YOU DARE TRY TO BACK OUT OF OUR DEAL, SIOBHAN?
NO! YOU DEMANDED A SACRIFICE! IT WILL NOT BE MY FREEDOM!
THE TIME FOR NEGOTIATION IS LONG PAST.
YOUR ATTEMPT TO SEVER TIES WITH THE NETHERWORLD WILL NOT BE WITHOUT A PRICE.
BUT YOUR FEAR WILL BE A GOOD START.
AAIIEEEEEEEE!
DINAH, COME IN. DINAH, DO YOU READ ME?
LOUD AND CLEAR.
WHAT JUST HAPPENED? IT WAS STATIC FOR A FEW MINUTES.
LONG STORY. BUT GOOD NEWS IS OUR BANSHEE PROBLEM IS TAKEN CARE OF.
:SNORT: OH, YOU DEFINITELY OWE ME THAT STORY ONCE THIS CRISIS IS OVER.
I'M SURE WE'LL BOTH HAVE PLENTY TO SHARE.
AFTER ALL...
...THE NIGHT HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN.
Birds of Prey in
DEARLY DEPARTED
ASHLEY ALLEN - WRITER / JOSÉ LUÍS - PENCILS
JONAS TRINDADE - INKS / BIG DOORS STUDIOS - COLORS
CARLOS M. MANGUAL - LETTERS / MICHAEL McCALISTER - EDITOR

SOMETHING IS...HAPPENING. AND SUPERMAN HAS SENT OUT A RALLYING CALL. I GUESS HE WANTS TO POOL OUR RESOURCES TO STOP...WHATEVER THIS IS.
SIGH I THINK I'VE BEEN DOING THIS TOO LONG.
THIS SHOULD ALL RATTLE ME, BUT IT DOESN'T.
THE WORLD HAS GROWN INTO A WEIRD PLACE, BUT WHEN YOU'VE BEEN AT IT AS LONG AS I HAVE, I GUESS SIGHT OF THE STRANGE LOSES IT'S EDGE.
AND THIS IS AS STRANGE AS THEY COME.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.
HOLD THE PHONE.
HAWKMEN?! YOU'RE SAYIN' THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE?
LOOK, I'M JUST TELLING YOU WHAT I SAW.
THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING ZERO HOUR. --ANDREW
BECAUSE I'M A MEMBER OF THE JUSTICE SOCIETY OF AMERICA--
--AND STRANGE HASN'T STOPPED US YET.
FATE TELL US WHERE WE'RE GOING YET?
THE HEROES OF THIS WORLD ARE GATHERING FOR A BATTLE.
BUT I SENSE A GREAT DISTURBANCE OUTSIDE OF TIME AND SPACE.
DOES THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION?
JUST A QUICK POP OUTTA TIME AND SPACE.

VANISHING POINT.
MAIN OUTPOST OF THE LINEAR MEN.
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF MY TEAM FEELS LIKE I CAN KEEP UP.
HONESTLY? I FEEL SPREAD SO THIN.
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE GUYS LIKE JAY AND ALAN CAN LEAN ON OTHERS SPEEDSTERS...LANTERNS.
PRATT RESPECTS PALMER. AND THE NUMBER OF BAT-PEOPLE--
OKAY. I NEED TO GET OUT OF MY HEAD. FOCUS.
THE TEAM NEEDS ME.
Hmm. my magic must've dispersed up all across the compound.
STILL DON'T KNOW WHO OR WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE--
--LOOKING FOR...

HELLO? IS SOMEONE THERE?
I SWEAR I SAW...
LET'S GATHER WITH THE OTHERS. SEPARATED, I FEAR WE'RE MORE--
--VULNERABLE!
SOMETIMES IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE THE ELDER STATESMEN. THE HEROES OVER THE HILL. AND YET, HERE WE ARE...

THE PEOPLE THAT WORKED HERE.
WHERE D'YA THINK THEY ALL GOT OFF TO?
SOMETHING TELLS ME THEY NEVER LEFT.
...LAYING IT ALL ON THE LINE.
CLANG!
THERE ARE A LOT MORE SUPER-FOLK NOW THAN WHEN TED AND I GOT STARTED.
CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER THOUGH...
...ARE WE PULLING OUR WEIGHT?
I'M A MESSENGER OF GOD...
YOU'RE DOOMED IF YOU STAY HERE...THIS PLACE IS CURSED. CURSED! I'VE GOT TO WARN YA. YOU'RE DOOMED IF YOU STAY. GO... GO!

ALL THESE SCREENS...I CAN SEE THE OTHERS FIGHTING. FIGHTING TO SAVE OUR REALITY. OUR FUTURE.

I MIGHT NOT HAVE A SIDEKICK ANYMORE. A LEGACY LIKE THE REST OF THEM.
IF IT'S JUST ME, IF I'M THE ONLY ONE...
...BETTER MAKE THIS ONE LIFE COUNT.
TRY NOT TO BREATHE.

I'M HERE! COME AND GET ME!
I LEFT MY GAS GUN. WHY THE HELL DID I LEAVE MY GAS GUN?!

AS LONG AS MY TEAM MADE IT OUT...THERE ARE WORSE WAYS FOR MY STORY TO END.
'EY, BUCKET-HEAD!
SLEEP TIGHT.
BUT THAT WON'T BE TODAY.

AND YES, I'VE BEEN DOING THIS A LONG TIME. BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME THERE'S STILL MORE STORY TO TELL.
AT THE POINT OF VANISHING
MATTHEW LEVINE | WRITER
JORDI TARRAGONA | ARTIST
LUIS GUERRERO | COLORS
DAVE SHARPE | LETTERS
ANDREW MARINO | EDITOR
NEVER THE END!

The Docks of Gotham City.
Midnight. All Hallows' Eve.
HEY, BARBARA. ARE YOU SEEING ALL THIS?
I'M TAPPED INTO EVERY CAMERA WITHIN A TWO-BLOCK RADIUS, INCLUDING THE ONE COVERING THE WAREHOUSE ENTRANCE.
NIGHTWING, WHOEVER YOU'RE TRACKING, THE CAMERAS AREN'T PICKING HIM UP.
YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT CHASING SHADOWS?
CRRKT
ONLY IF SHADOWS LEARNED HOW TO RIP OPEN STEEL DOORS.
THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING INFINITE CRISIS. --KATIE
THAT CAN'T BE POSSIBLE.
EXACTLY.
DICK. I CAN SEE YOU AND THE DOOR, BUT I DON'T SEE ANY DAMAGE.
YOU NEED TO PAUSE WHILE WE FIGURE THIS OUT.
TOO LATE...
...I'M GOING IN.
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND-- WE'RE LOOKING AT TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
THEN YOU MUST HAVE A BAD CONNECTION, OR SOMETHING'S SCREWING WITH YOUR FEED.
I'LL KNOW MORE ONCE I'M INSIDE.
PLEASE BE CAREFUL. THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG ABOUT ALL--
SIZZK

WRONG? WRONG ABOUT WHAT? EVERYTHING SEEMS NORMAL.
WAIT. I TAKE THAT BACK. THE ENTRANCE, IT'S CLOSING, AND THAT CAN'T BE GOOD.
VRMMM
BARBARA. ARE YOU PICKING UP ANY OF THIS...
...BARBARA?
I'M SORRY, BUT SHE CAN'T HEAR YOU. REALITY WORKS A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY HERE.
WHA...?!
BUT THEN AGAIN, I'M NOT SURE WHAT REALITY IS ANYMORE. IT CHANGES SO QUICKLY AND SO OFTEN.
WHO ARE YOU?
THESE SHARDS CAPTURE EVERY MOMENT, EVERY EVENT...THEY HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO STOP CHANGE AND TO BRING IT ABOUT.
SO BE CAREFUL NOT TO PUNCH THE GLASS...

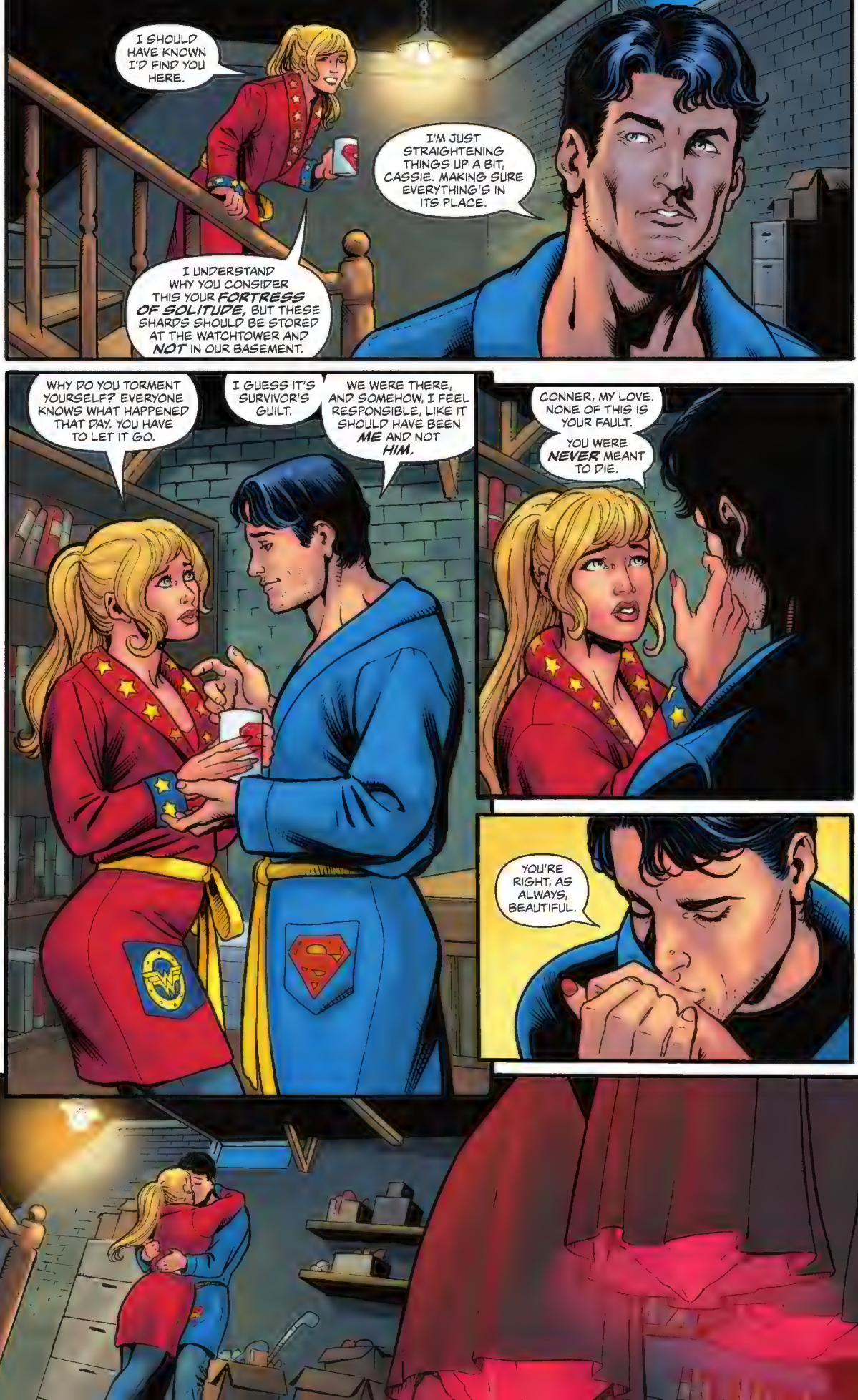
...FOR ALL WE KNOW, THE WORLD COULD HAVE BEEN REINVENTED A DOZEN TIMES THROUGHOUT THIS CONVERSATION.
INSTEAD, IT WAS THE END OF MINE.
I REMEMBER THIS. OF ALL THE CRISES, THIS ONE FELT INFINITE. I THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD.
AND IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE END. OF YOUR WORLD.
THE SHARDS ARE SHATTERED FRAGMENTS OF THE WALL THAT SEPARATED REALITY FROM OBLIVION.
THEY ARE STOLEN MOMENTS OF TIME THAT UNFOLDED, BUT NOT AS INTENDED.
ALL EVENTS CONVERGE AT THIS ONE POINT. THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE MEANT TO DIE.
I'M STARTING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS IS AND WHO YOU ARE. YOU DIDN'T WANT ME DEAD...YOU WANTED EVERYONE DEAD.
DIDN'T YOU...
...PRIME?!
NO. NOT SUPERBOY-PRIME, BUT CONNER KENT. THE ONE THAT WAS KILLED IN YOUR PLACE.

I DIDN'T LURE YOU HERE OUT OF MALICE OR REVENGE. I WAS GIVEN THE UNFORTUNATE TASK OF SETTING THINGS RIGHT.
BRINGING A STOP TO THE ENDLESS CONVULSIONS THAT TWIST OUR TIME AND SPACE.
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH ME?
IT WAS ORDAINED THAT YOUR DEATH WOULD UNITE ALL HEROES, ALLOWING SUPERMAN, BATMAN, AND WONDER WOMAN TO STEP ASIDE AND LET OTHERS RISE TO TAKE THEIR PLACE.
THIS DECISION WOULD END ALL CRISES, AS THE UNIVERSE WOULD STOP RESETTING AROUND THEM.
THE UNIVERSE WOULD BE ALLOWED TO HEAL, BRINGING ABOUT THE ONE TRUE GOLDEN AGE, YET SOMEHOW, WHETHER IT WAS FATE OR THE POWERS THAT BE WHO INTERVENED, YOU SURVIVED...
...AND I DIED IN YOUR PLACE.
AND, IF YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, I'M STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE, SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?
THE RESPONSE? THE UNIVERSE WAS GOING TO KEEP TRYING TO KILL YOU, HOPING TO BRING THIS ENDLESS STRING OF CRISES AND DESTRUCTION TO A CLOSE.
THE PROBLEM IS, YOU JUST...
...WON'T...
...DIE.

I IMAGINE THIS MAKES SENSE TO YOU. BUT ALL I KNOW IS THAT NO ONE NEEDS TO DIE.
AS LONG AS WE'RE ALIVE, WE SHOULD FIND A WAY TO WORK TOGETHER AND KEEP LIVING.
I'M SORRY, BUT YOU'RE WRONG.
WE'VE HAD THIS CONVERSATION BEFORE AND TRIED A THOUSAND WAYS.
THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE SOLUTION. ONE OUTCOME.
CONNER! STOP IT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'VE SET YOUR DEATH IN MOTION.
NO!
HOW CAN YOU BE SURE THIS IS THE RIGHT ANSWER? WHO'S TO SAY WHAT WORLDS SHOULD LIVE AND WHICH SHOULD DIE?
NO ONE PERSON SHOULD HAVE THAT MUCH POWER. WE SHOULD CREATE OUR OWN FUTURES.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE A FUTURE...

...NOT ANYMORE.
YOUR SACRIFICE NEEDED TO BE MADE. BUT REST EASY...
...WE WILL ALL BE BETTER FOR IT.

I HAVE ONE REGRET, AND IT WAS MY HARDEST DECISION. I SET YOUR DEATH ON AN ENDLESS LOOP.
YOU WILL DIE AND CONTINUE TO DIE IN EVERY KNOWN DIMENSION, MULTIVERSE, AND TIMELINE. I HAD TO BE SURE THAT NO ONE COULD EVER STEP IN AND UNDO WHAT I'VE DONE.
DEATH WILL COME TO YOU IN SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS.
NOT THE FATE YOU DESERVE, BUT THE ONE I DESPERATELY NEED--
CONNER, ARE YOU DOWNSTAIRS? I THOUGHT YOU WERE GETTING READY.
I'LL BE THERE IN A MINUTE.
I'M JUST FINISHING UP.


I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN I'D FIND YOU HERE.
I'M JUST STRAIGHTENING THINGS UP A BIT, CASSIE. MAKING SURE EVERYTHING'S IN ITS PLACE.
I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU CONSIDER THIS YOUR FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE, BUT THESE SHARDS SHOULD BE STORED AT THE WATCHTOWER AND NOT IN OUR BASEMENT.
WHY DO YOU TORMENT YOURSELF? EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY. YOU HAVE TO LET IT GO.
I GUESS IT'S SURVIVOR'S GUILT.
WE WERE THERE, AND SOMEHOW, I FEEL RESPONSIBLE, LIKE IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME AND NOT HIM.
CONNER, MY LOVE. NONE OF THIS IS YOUR FAULT.
YOU WERE NEVER MEANT TO DIE.
YOU'RE RIGHT, AS ALWAYS, BEAUTIFUL.

HEY! YOU'RE STILL PART GODDESS. THAT HURTS.
AND YOU STILL GOT THE CUTEST BUTT. NOW GET MOVING. TIM'S HERE, AND HE'S UPSTAIRS WAITING FOR US.
PLEASE DON'T TELL ME HE'S ALREADY IN COSTUME.
HE IS.
YOU KNOW, HE TAKES THIS WHOLE BATMAN THING WAY TOO SERIOUSLY.
SO YOU TELL HIM.
WE'VE LIVED THROUGH TWENTY YEARS OF PEACE.
WE HAVE INSPIRED AND CHANGED THE WORLD. OUR COSTUMES ARE JUST SYMBOLS NOW.
IF HE WANTS TO WEAR IT AS A REMINDER OF ALL WE'VE DONE, I SAY LET HIM!
I DON'T NEED A COSTUME. YOUR LOVE IS THE ONLY REMINDER I NEED.
EVERYTHING I DO, I DO FOR YOU.
WHENEVER I THINK OF THE SACRIFICES MADE, I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK OF NIGHTWING. HE LOVED LIFE BUT RARELY HAD A LIFE OF HIS OWN. ALL HE EVER WANTED WAS TO BE A HERO...
...AND DICK GRAYSON DIED A HERO'S DEATH. SO MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT--MAYBE IT IS TIME WE FINALLY MOVED ON.

LET'S STAY WITH THE POSITIVE. REMEMBER HOW HIS DYING HELPED DELIVER A BETTER WORLD.
OOP.
MAY HE REST IN PEACE.
CRISIS
OBSCURA
WRITTEN BY DAN DiDIO ART BY M.L. SANAPO COLORS BY HI-FI LETTERING BY CARLOS M. MANGUAL EDITS BY KATIE KUBERT
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER
SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY

GOTHAM CITY.
Everyone loves to be scared...
...at least a little.
MONARCH
NOW PLAYING
DREAD CASTLE
DREAD CASTLE
DREAD CASTLE
DC COMICS PRESENTS
THE SCARECROW IN
"JUMP SCARE"
RACHEL PINNELAS WRITER
WILL ROBSON ARTIST
ANDREW DALHOUSE COLORIST
CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER
ANDREW MARINO EDITOR
THE MONARCH THEATRE
MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN
NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD
DAWN OF THE DEAD
DAY OF THE DEAD
RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD
RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD PART II
RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD PART III
The Birds
PSYCHO
ROPE
Dial M for Murder
REAR WINDOW
EVIL DEAD 2
DREAD CASTLE
CHILD'S PLAY
SCREAM
HALLOWEEN
NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD
DAWN OF THE DEAD
HALLOWEEN AT THE MONARCH
NEW 35MM PRINTS!
NOTE: THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING THE EVENTS OF BLACKEST NIGHT.

To sit in a dark room, Frights projected on the screen, dopamine and epinephrine surging... the Fight-or-Flight response in full swing.
The End
Eyes dilated, hairs standing on end...ready to run or to scream.
But then the lights turn on and you see a friendly face. You laugh. You're safe. The horrors can't reach you now. Or so you think.
The bonds born out of fear are not so different, neurochemically, from those born out of love.
That fascinates me.
And even if I can't feel it, I can study it.
I KNOW IT'S AN OLDIE, KIM, BUT IT REALLY HOLDS UP. I WAS TERRIFIED BY THAT TORTURE SCENE... THE WAY IT KEPT CUTTING BACK TO THE GUARD?
PLUS THOSE SHOTS OF THE TUNNELS LEADING TO THE DUNGEON?!
TOTALLY. AND ALL THAT STUFF WITH THE MIRRORS? YOU CAN SEE HOW IT INFLUENCED HITCHCOCK.
TO ME, THAT IS CINEMA. I LOVE IT, EVEN IF IT'S ABSOLUTE NIGHTMARE FUEL.
OH SHOOT, STUART--I LEFT MY JACKET IN MY SEAT. MIND WAITING FOR ME WHILE I GO GET IT?
SURE, I'LL BE RIGHT HERE.

Let's take those two, for example...
Heart rates are returning to baseline. The sympathetic nervous system is in retreat.
POPCORN $3.99
SODA $4.99
CANDY $4.99
$5.99
They think there's no longer a threat.
HOT DOG
POPCORN $3.99
SODA $4.99
CANDY $4.99
$5.99
But what if I tore their bond apart--
...made this one think he's lost someone he loves...
FFFFFSSS

AAHHHH!!
NOW PLAYING
WHAA--?
NOOO!
The fear response is directed by our senses. What we can hear and see and smell.
Or think we do.
And those sensory inputs trigger the amygdala to release neurotransmitters that determine how we react accordingly.
Oxytocin, the bonding or love hormone, inhibits the fear response.
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ALL BY YOURSELF?
When we break that bond...
...the fear can grow.

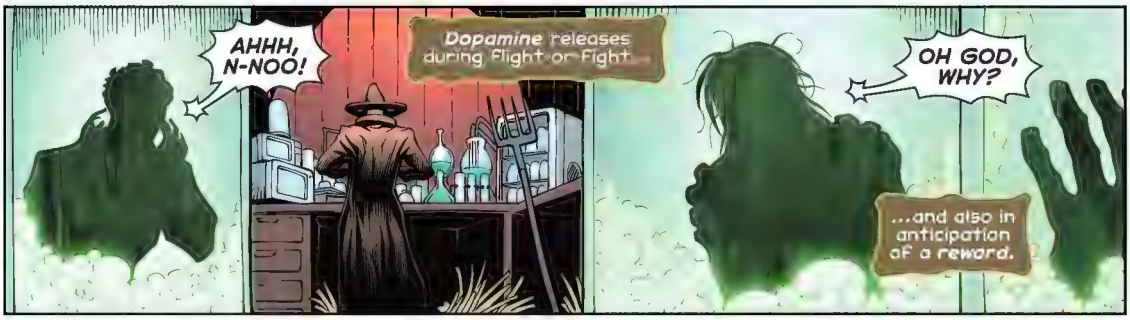
AHHHHHHHHH!
STUART?! WHERE DID YOU GO?!
From infancy, abandonment is one of humanity's deepest fears.
To be alone changes the brain's development.
It alters our biology.
Yet deep within the periaqueductal gray, that ancient cerebral structure, fear is activated by any anticipation of pain.
And what's more painful than being alone?
IS IT SCARIER NOW THAT IT'S REAL?

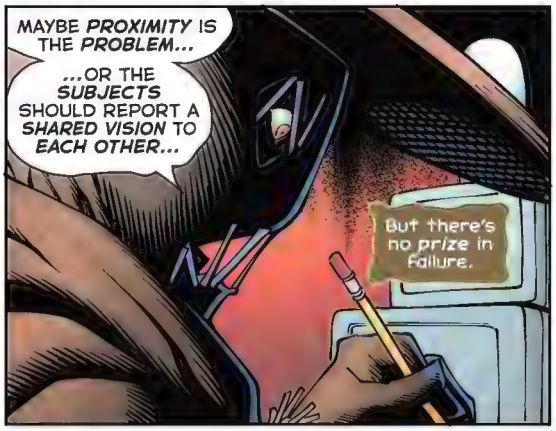
And then there's that *paradoxical* psychological occurrence the textbooks define as the *"misattribution of arousal."*
UNF!
...just as with fear, feelings of *love* can trigger the release of *adrenaline*...
...with quite similar *physiological* results.
So when you *share* a frightening experience with someone that makes you feel *vulnerable*, it can *strengthen* your connection...
NO! NONONONO! NOT HERE! NOT *THIS PLACE!*
...and even make them seem *more attractive*.
DON'T YOU JUST *LOVE* THIS SCENE?
THAT'S... *THE SCARECROW?!*

Similarly, we have the "excitation-transfer theory" to explore such cognitive phenomena...
OKAY, KIM, THINK THIS THROUGH...
hoo-hoo
CRUNCCHHHH
...and give an explanation for the enduring appeal of scary movies.
PLEASE! STOP! PLEASE!
The negative psychological and physical responses to the stimuli on-screen can be positively transmogrified.
And so we're motivated to seek out those experiences again and again.
PELT
Even unconsciously.
FLWAP
AHHH! GET OFF!
SHOO!
UNGHF...
KIM?!
WE GOTTA BE QUICK! I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG HE'LL BE DISTRACTED!
COME ON!

Fear is so strong that our reactions surrounding it are stored in our memories.
Survival is based on it.
THAMC
EH?
You never want to forget what can hurt you.
Or those feelings.
The fear of letting yourself hope...
...and opening yourself to hurt again.

Or getting too close
OUTER SPACE SPIDERS!
NOTHING
OF THEM!
237
CREATURE FROM THE BASEMENT
To understand what we're afraid of...
SSSSSHHHHHHH
SSSSSSSS
SHHHHHH
...we have to recognize how connected what we dread is to what we love.


AHHH, N-NOO!
Dopamine releases during Flight or Fight
OH GOD, WHY?
...and also in anticipation of a reward.


MAYBE PROXIMITY IS THE PROBLEM...
...OR THE SUBJECTS SHOULD REPORT A SHARED VISION TO EACH OTHER...
But there's no prize in failure.

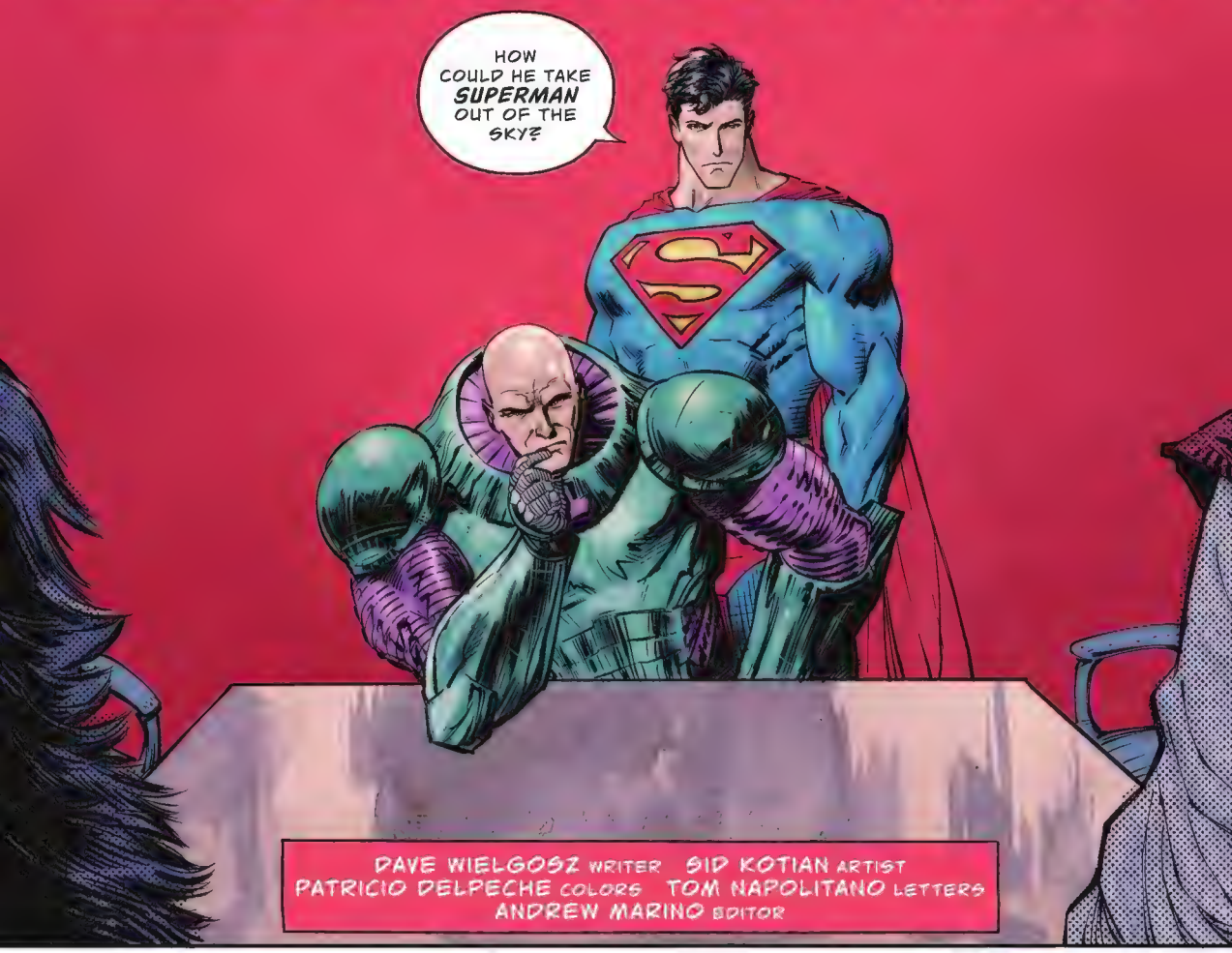
SOON AFTER...
...AND I CAN MEASURE THE EFFECTS...

...AND NOT JUST DISTILL THEIR FEAR...
...BUT FINALLY FEEL IT FOR MYSELF!

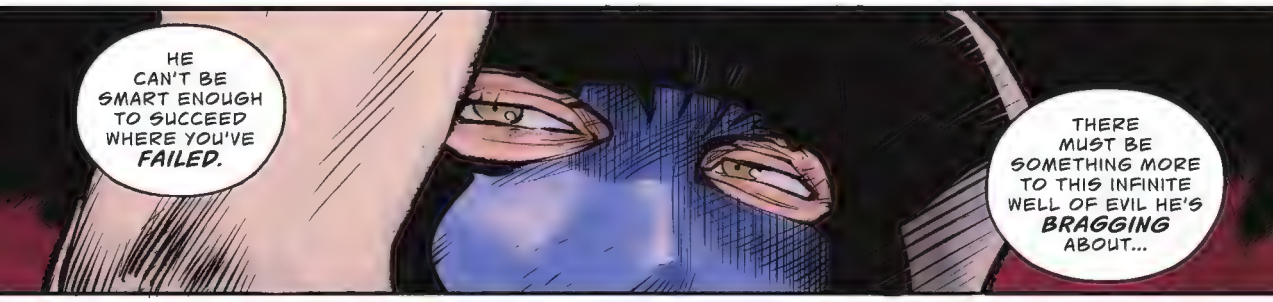
JONATHAN CRANE OF EARTH.
YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO INSTILL GREAT FEAR.
FIN...

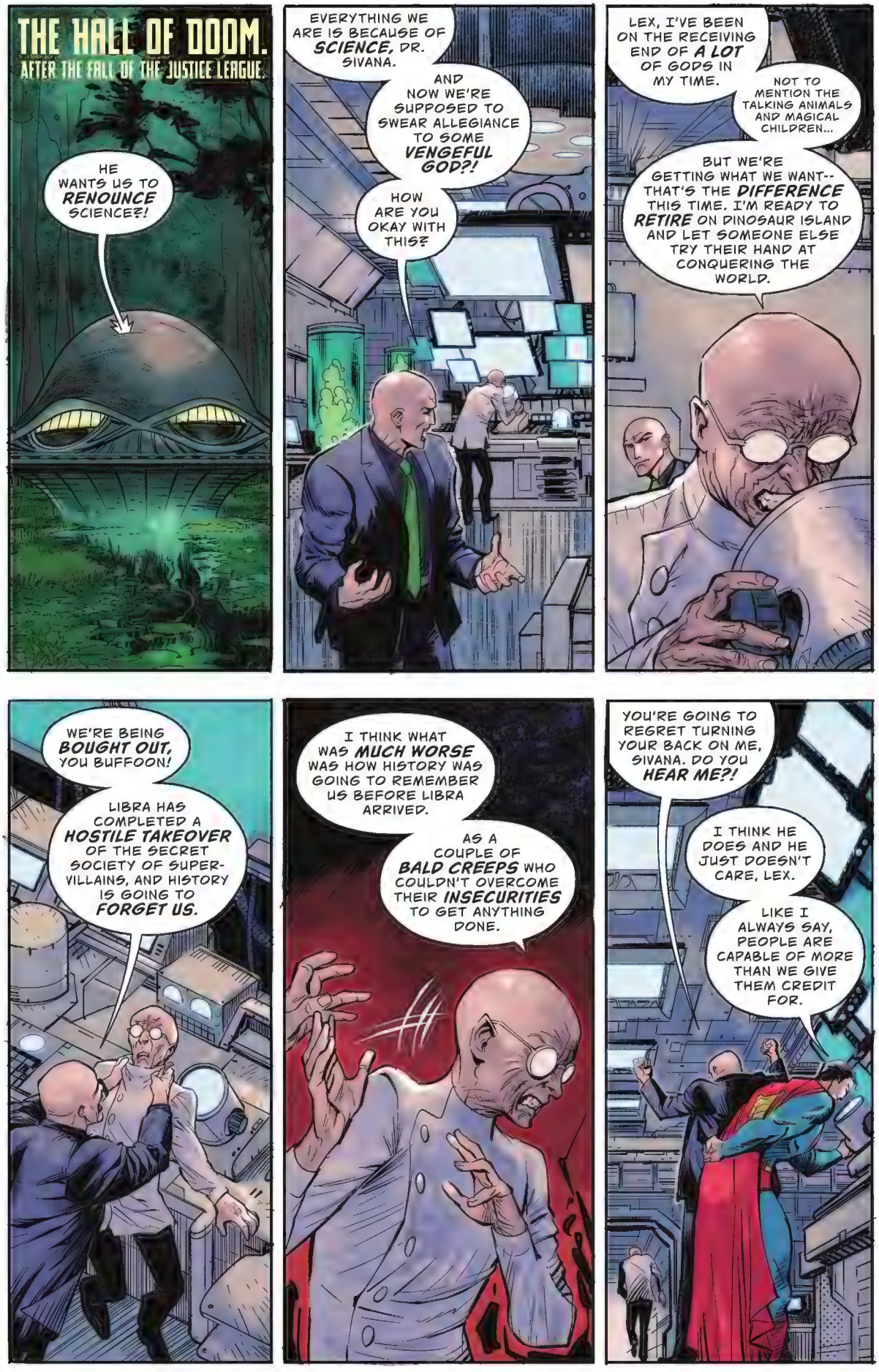
"LIBRA WALKED OUT OF THE PAST, REVITALIZED BY FAITH.
"A MAN WHO HAD ONCE BEEN BEATEN BY THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA RETURNED YEARS LATER SAYING HE HAD THE POWER TO NOT ONLY DEFEAT THEM BUT BALANCE THE SCALES IN EVIL'S FAVOR.
*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING THE EVENTS OF FINAL CRISIS!
"THE SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS, WHO HAD NOT-SO-SECRETLY BEEN DEFEATED BY THE JUSTICE LEAGUE DOZENS MORE TIMES THAN LIBRA HAD, WERE DUBIOUS.
"BUT LIBRA MADE THEM A DEAL.
"IF HE COULD TEAR APART THE JUSTICE LEAGUE, THE SOCIETY WOULD SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO LIBRA, AND TO THE DARK FORCES THAT HAD EMPOWERED HIM...
"AND THE PROPHET KEPT HIS PROMISE. HE TORE DOWN THE PILLARS OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA.
"THEY WERE OUT OF THE WAY, AND THE EARTH READY TO BE TAKEN...
"THE SECRET SOCIETY FELL INTO LINE, EXCEPT FOR LEX LUTHOR... WHO COULD NOT ACCEPT ALL THIS TALK OF FAITH IN EVIL AND UNSEEN GODS...
BUT IT RUNS DEEPER THAN THAT, DOESN'T IT, LEX?
HOW COULD THIS MAN STROLL OUT FROM INSIGNIFICANCE AND DO WHAT YOU NEVER COULD?

LEX LUTHOR IN "GOD'S CHOSEN MAN"



DAVE WIELGOSZ WRITER SID KOTIAN ARTIST
PATRICIO DELPECHE COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
ANDREW MARINO EDITOR


HE CAN'T BE SMART ENOUGH TO SUCCEED WHERE YOU'VE FAILED.
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING MORE TO THIS INFINITE WELL OF EVIL HE'S BRAGGING ABOUT...


THE HALL OF DOOM.
AFTER THE FALL OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE.
HE WANTS US TO RENOUNCE SCIENCE?!
EVERYTHING WE ARE IS BECAUSE OF SCIENCE, DR. SIVANA.
AND NOW WE'RE SUPPOSED TO SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO SOME VENGEFUL GOD?!
HOW ARE YOU OKAY WITH THIS?
LEX, I'VE BEEN ON THE RECEIVING END OF A LOT OF GODS IN MY TIME.
NOT TO MENTION THE TALKING ANIMALS AND MAGICAL CHILDREN...
BUT WE'RE GETTING WHAT WE WANT-- THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE THIS TIME. I'M READY TO RETIRE ON DINOSAUR ISLAND AND LET SOMEONE ELSE TRY THEIR HAND AT CONQUERING THE WORLD.
WE'RE BEING BOUGHT OUT, YOU BUFFOON!
LIBRA HAS COMPLETED A HOSTILE TAKEOVER OF THE SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS, AND HISTORY IS GOING TO FORGET US.
I THINK WHAT WAS MUCH WORSE WAS HOW HISTORY WAS GOING TO REMEMBER US BEFORE LIBRA ARRIVED.
AS A COUPLE OF BALD CREEPS WHO COULDN'T OVERCOME THEIR INSECURITIES TO GET ANYTHING DONE.
YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET TURNING YOUR BACK ON ME, SIVANA. DO YOU HEAR ME?!
I THINK HE DOES AND HE JUST DOESN'T CARE, LEX.
LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, PEOPLE ARE CAPABLE OF MORE THAN WE GIVE THEM CREDIT FOR.

I NEED YOU TO SHUT UP AND LEAVE.
LEX, I'M THE LAST ALLY YOU HAVE. BE HONEST, YOU KNEW HOW THINGS WOULD ALWAYS END.
NOTHING IS ENDING AND YOU'RE NOT REAL.
LIBRA SENT YOU AWAY...AND NOW HE'S TALKING ABOUT THE APOCALYPSE...
APOKOLIPS.
THAT'S WHAT I SAID!
YOUR ANGER IS CLOUDING YOUR MIND, LEX.
YOU ARE THE SMARTEST PERSON I KNOW.
AND IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO LET GO OF THAT ANGER AND SEE WHAT'S IN FRONT OF YOU. IT'S THE ONLY WAY YOU'RE GOING TO GET THROUGH THIS.
DARK GODS. ANTI-LIFE. APOKO--
I SEE THE PIECES. I CAN PUT THEM TOGETHER ON MY OWN.
AND I CAN PUT THEM TOGETHER MUCH FASTER ONCE YOU LEAVE.
OH, LEX...
WE'RE TRYING TO START OUR MEETING.
CARE TO JOIN US?
YES, LIBRA...I JUST NEED A MOMENT.
TO YELL AT YOUR IMAGINARY FRIEND?
I THINK THEY GOT THE MESSAGE.
CHOP CHOP, LEX. WE HAVE WILLS TO BREAK!

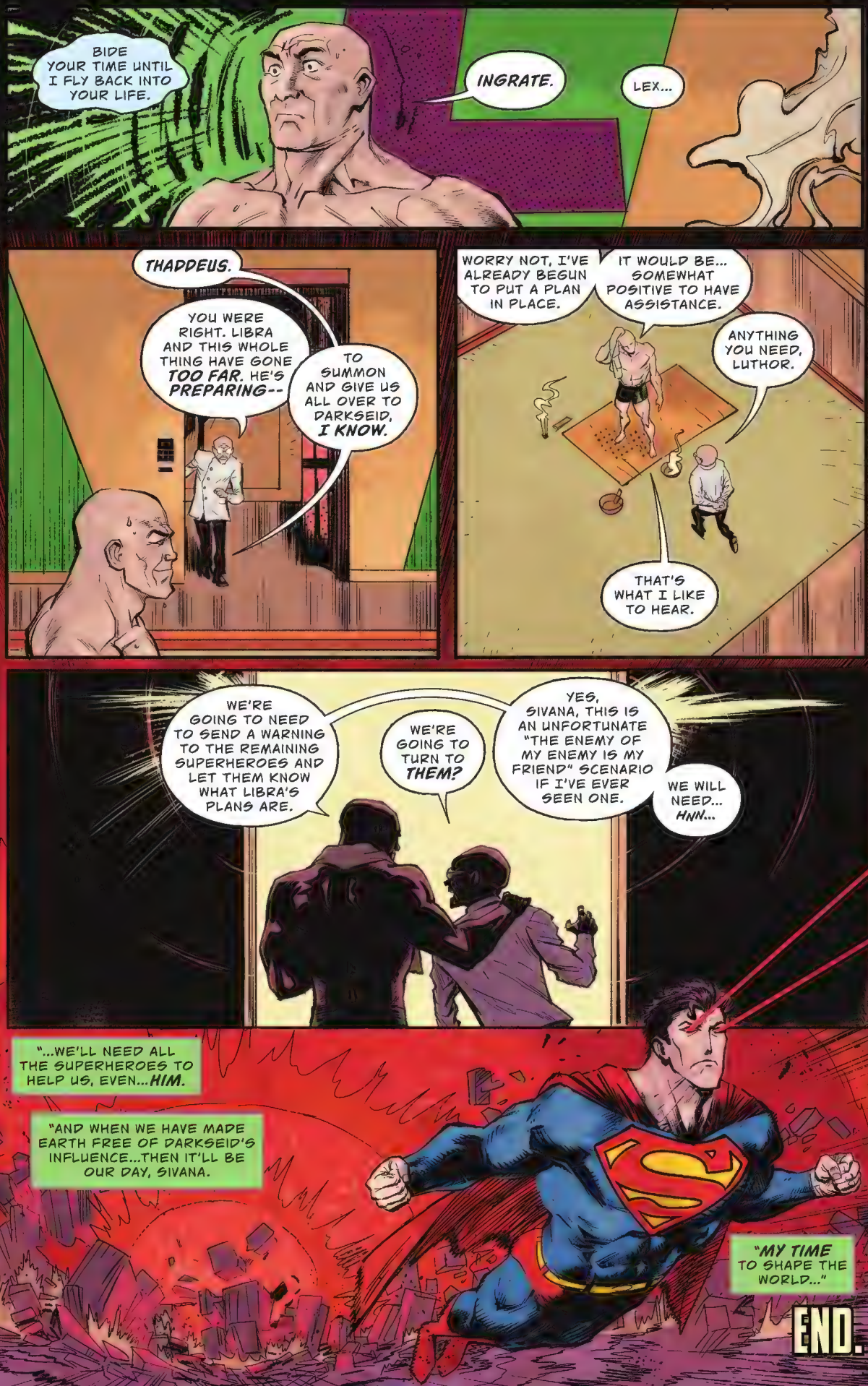
LEXCORP. METROPOLIS.
ANTI-LIFE HAS CONQUERED THE GLOBE.
MINDLESS SOLDIERS, ATOMIC KNIGHTS, AND BLOOD-RED SKIES...
IT'S NOT LOOKING GOOD OUT THERE, LEX.
ANTI LIFE
IT'S NOT LOOKING GOOD IN HERE EITHER IF I'M BEING HONEST.
YOU'VE GOTTEN WORSE SINCE ANTI-LIFE TOOK HOLD AND LIBRA HACKED YOUR ARMOR.
HOW DO YOU BREAK THE WILL OF EVERYONE
WHERE IS SUPERMAN
BUT WE CAN'T KEEP HIDING, LEX... YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO BACK OUT THERE AND TRY AGAIN.
WHERE ARE YOU?
YOU'VE ESCAPED TO THE MOST FRIGHTENING PLACE IMAGINABLE.
THE MIND OF LEX LUTHOR...I'M SURE IT'S FULL OF KRYPTONITE.

IT'S MUCH WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.
MUCH, MUCH WORSE...
WILL YOU TELL HIM I'M SORRY?
LEX IS THE BEST.
I'VE JUST BEEN HIT IN THE HEAD BY SO MANY CHILDREN AND TIGERS OVER THE YEARS, SUPERMAN!
I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO WITH LEX, DOCTORS SIVANA. PLEASE!
LET ME THROUGH!
TELL LEX I'M READY TO SERVE! I CAN'T SPEND ETERNITY THIS WAY!
LEX? WE NEED TO GO. THINGS OUT IN THE REAL WORLD ARE GETTING WORSE.
IN A MOMENT. ALL THESE JAGGED PIECES...THEY FINALLY FIT TOGETHER.
LIBRA, COMMAND D, THE CRIME BIBLE, THE DEATH OF DAN TURPIN...

I UNDERSTAND IT ALL NOW.
CLAD
HE KEPT SAYING HE WAS SWEARING ALLEGIANCE TO A DARK GOD...
I DON'T BELIEVE IN GODS.
BUT I KNOW PLENTY ABOUT ALIENS PRETENDING TO BE DIVINE.
ALL ALONG LIBRA'S BEEN FATTENING US UP FOR DARKSEID.
THAT WAS THE BIG PLAN.
HAHAHAHA!
THAT SEEMS BAD TO ME, LEX.
OH, IT'S BAD...BUT IT'S MANAGEABLE NOW. IT'S AN ENEMY I KNOW.
AND MORE IMPORTANTLY...

...LIBRA'S NOT A CHOSEN ONE.
HE'S A PAWN.
ANYONE COULD HAVE BEEN DARKSEID'S CHESS PIECE.
ONLY I COULD BE LEX LUTHOR.
KLOM
MY MISSION IS UNCHANGED...I WILL PROTECT THIS WORLD FROM ALIEN INFLUENCE.
I WILL DEFEAT DARKSEID.
AND THEN I'LL SHOW THE WORLD MY WAY.
HEH HEH...
AND THEY'LL--
HA HA HA
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING AT?!
HAHAHA HAHAHA
OH...YOU WILL NEVER CHANGE.
YOU DON'T GET TO INSULT ME HERE!
YOU'RE SO FULL OF IT, LEX.

I AM A PRODUCT OF YOUR MIND.
YOUR MIND THAT KNOWS HOW BADLY YOU NEED SUPERMAN TO MOTIVATE YOU TO DO ANYTHING.
YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT CAPABLE OF DEFEATING DARKSEID ON YOUR OWN.
YOU KNOW YOU SHOULD HAVE FIGURED OUT THE PIECES OF THIS AT THE START, BUT YOU WERE TOO BLINDED BY JEALOUSY TO SEE.
YOU KNOW YOUR BACK IS AGAINST THE WALL AND YOU NEED SOMETHING TO FINISH THIS.
TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW, LEX.
YOU... YOU CAN'T BULLY ME.
I'M NOT HERE TO INTIMIDATE, I'M HERE TO ENLIGHTEN.
SAY WHAT YOU KNOW.
SPEAK UP, LEX.
I NEED SUPERMAN TO HELP ME DEFEAT DARKSEID.
VERY GOOD. NOW GO BIDE YOUR TIME UNTIL I FLY BACK INTO YOUR LIFE.


BIDE YOUR TIME UNTIL I FLY BACK INTO YOUR LIFE.
INGRATE.
LEX...
THADDEUS.
YOU WERE RIGHT. LIBRA AND THIS WHOLE THING HAVE GONE TOO FAR. HE'S PREPARING--
TO SUMMON AND GIVE US ALL OVER TO DARKSEID, I KNOW.
WORRY NOT, I'VE ALREADY BEGUN TO PUT A PLAN IN PLACE.
IT WOULD BE... SOMEWHAT POSITIVE TO HAVE ASSISTANCE.
ANYTHING YOU NEED, LUTHOR.
THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO HEAR.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO SEND A WARNING TO THE REMAINING SUPERHEROES AND LET THEM KNOW WHAT LIBRA'S PLANS ARE.
WE'RE GOING TO TURN TO THEM?
YES, SIVANA, THIS IS AN UNFORTUNATE "THE ENEMY OF MY ENEMY IS MY FRIEND" SCENARIO IF I'VE EVER SEEN ONE.
WE WILL NEED... HNN...
"...WE'LL NEED ALL THE SUPERHEROES TO HELP US, EVEN...HIM.
"AND WHEN WE HAVE MADE EARTH FREE OF DARKSEID'S INFLUENCE...THEN IT'LL BE OUR DAY, SIVANA.
"MY TIME TO SHAPE THE WORLD..."
END.

GOTHAM CITY.
THE APARTMENT OF LUCAS TRENT.
HALF OF EUROPE IS...IS...IT'S GONE...
...IT'S UNDERWATER. MILLIONS ARE DEAD.
THEY DID IT. THEY REALLY DID IT.
THE WAR BETWEEN THE ATLANTEANS AND THE AMAZONS HAS REACHED A FLASHPOINT--
--AND THIS REPORTER WORRIES THAT THESE ARE THE END DAYS...
THIS STORY TAKES PLACE DURING FLASHPOINT. --KATIE
Glug Glug
NO POINT IN SITTING AROUND HERE ALONE, LUCAS. DOING NOTHING...
TIME TO GO OUT.

JOKER'S WILD
ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULD BE OUT?
THERE'S A SERIAL KILLER ON THE LOOSE.
HE'S ALREADY KILLED JULIE MADISON, STEPHANIE BROWN, LUKE FOX, SOFIA FALCONE, SANDRA WU-SAN, ANDREW PULASKI...
HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THEIR NAMES?
IT'S ALL OVER SOCIAL MEDIA.
NO ONE IS SAFE...

"...HE COULD BE ANYWHERE."
JOKER WILD
ARMAGEDDON
THE MIDNIGHTER in...
VIOLENT TENDENCIES
REX OGLE writer
ADAM GRAPHITE artist
IVAN PLASCENCIA colorist
FERRAN DELGADO letterer
KATIE KUBERT editor

LONG AFTER MIDNIGHT.
PARKING ANY TIME
THANKS FOR HELPIN' ME GET HOME, DUDE. I CAN BARELY WALK.
NO IDEA HOW I GOT SO MESSED UP. ONLY HAD A COUPLE A' BEERS.
THEN THE ONE YOU GOT ME. THA'S ONLY... THREE?
WUZ THIS PLACE? I DON'T LIVE HERE. 'S CREEPY AS HELL.
THIS PYG'S HOME.
PYG TAKING YOU INSIDE TO GET WATER AND CALL YOU CAB.
I DUNNO, DUDE... I DON' EVEN KNOW YOU.
=SHHH= DARLING. DADDY JUST WANT TO HELP.

YOU LIVE HERE?
'S KINDA A DUMP.
PYG VERY BUSY WITH JOB, MAKING PEOPLE BETTER.
BOO. I LOST MY MASK. YOU GONNA TAKE YOURS OFF?
THIS ISN'T MASK. THIS PYG'S TRUE FACE.
YOUR WEIRD, MAN.
AND YOU BEAUTIFUL...
I FEEL REAL WEIRD. MIND IF I SIT DOWN?
PYG NO MIND.
HERE. LET PYG MAKE YOU MORE COMFORTABLE.

TCHUK!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
TCHAICK!
PLAYING GAME.
PYG LIKE GAME. YOU LIKE TOO?
LEAVE ME ALONE!
PYG LIKE WHEN THEY RUN.
=OINKY, OINKY=
RUN, LITTLE PIG, RUN...
...RUN TO YOUR SLAUGHTER.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?!
BECAUSE PYG LOVE YOU.
PYG LOVE DOLLS.
YOU SO UNIQUE, SO PRETTY, SO MUCH POTENTIAL...
THAT WHY PYG NEED YOU...
...TO MAKE YOU PERFECT...
...LIKE ALL THE OTHERS.

THE WORLD IS UGLY PLACE...
...LET PYG TAKE CARE OF YOU...
...IT ONLY HURT FOR A LITTLE WHILE...
TCHUK!
TCHUK!
...PAIN MAKE PERFECTION.
SO PYG GIVE YOU PAIN NOW!
PLEASE...
...NO...
...DON'T HURT ME...

...LET ME HURT YOU INSTEAD!
SHUNK!
WHAT...
...WHAT YOU DO TO PYG?!
...NO... MOVE...
OH, PIGGIE, PIGGIE, PIGGIE...
DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU WERE THE ONE PULLING THE STRINGS TONIGHT?

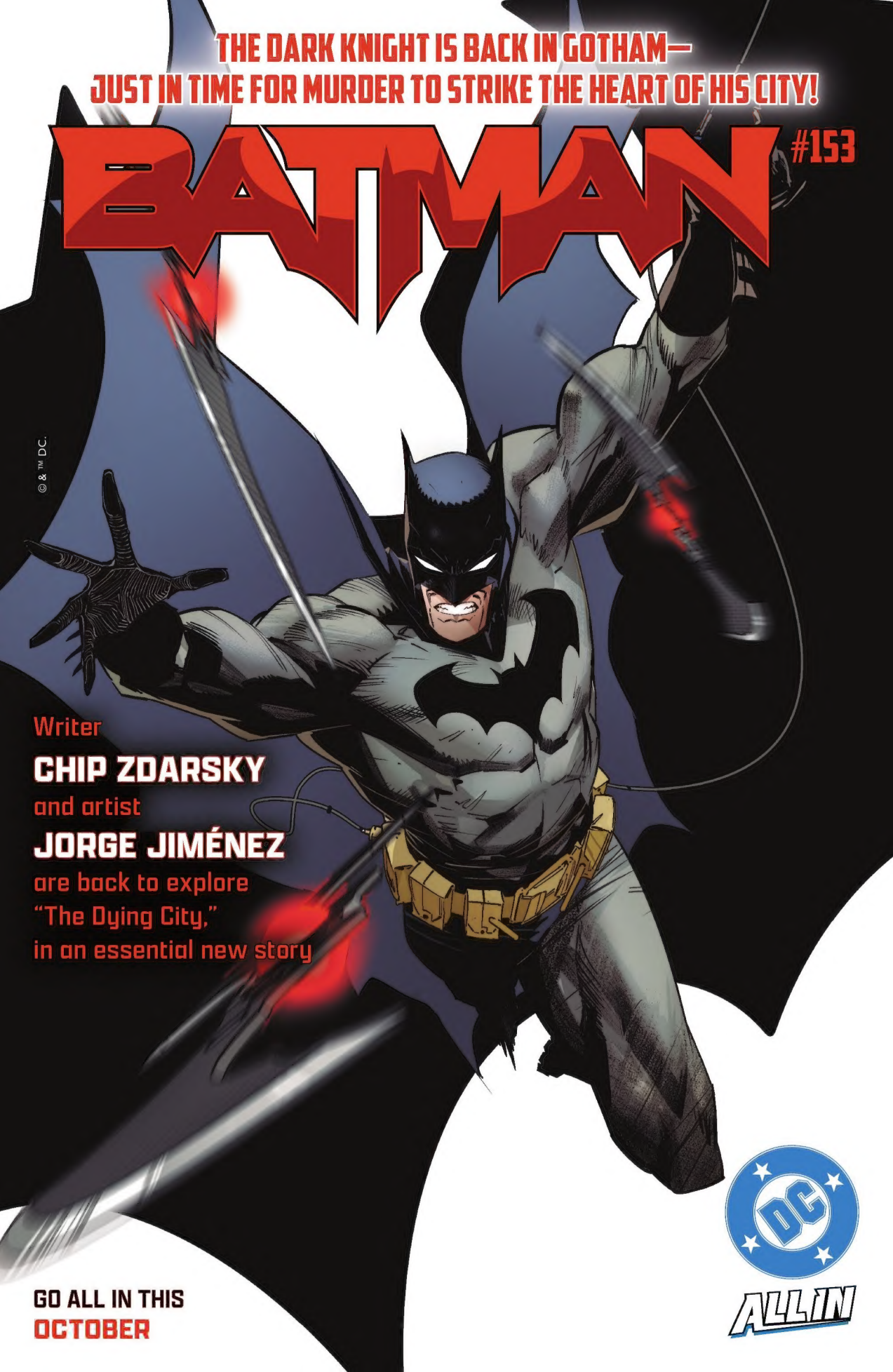
I'VE ALWAYS HAD A BLOODLUST TOO.
BUT I PUT MINE TO GOOD USE.

IN GOTHAM, BATMAN'S NOT THE ONLY AUTHORITY ON KILLING MONSTERS.
THE MIDNIGHTER STALKS THESE STREETS, TOO.

THIS WORLD MAY BE A BLEAK PLACE, BUT PEOPLE CAN MAKE IT BETTER...
SHUNK
...EVEN IF THEY HAVE TO GET A LITTLE BLOOD ON THEIR HANDS.
LUCAS TRENT. MIDNIGHTER.
THE END

THE DARK KNIGHT IS BACK IN GOTHAM—
JUST IN TIME FOR MURDER TO STRIKE THE HEART OF HIS CITY!

BATMAN #153



© & ™ DC.

Writer
CHIP ZDARSKY
and artist
JORGE JIMÉNEZ
are back to explore
"The Dying City,"
in an essential new story

GO ALL IN THIS
OCTOBER

ALL IN

Editors
KATIE KUBERT
ANDREW MARINO
MICHAEL McCALISTER

Associate Editor
SABRINA FUTCH

RANDY MAYOR *Publication Design*
SANDY ALONZO *Publication Production*

MARIE JAVINS *VP – EDITOR-IN-CHIEF*

JIM LEE *PRESIDENT, PUBLISHER & CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER*
ANNE DePIES *SENIOR VP & GENERAL MANAGER*
LARRY BERRY *VP – BRAND DESIGN & CREATIVE SERVICES*
DON FALLETTI *VP – MANUFACTURING & PRODUCTION*
LAWRENCE GANEM *VP – EDITORIAL PROGRAMMING & TALENT STRATEGY*
NICK J. NAPOLITANO *VP – PUBLISHING & BUSINESS OPERATIONS*
NANCY SPEARS *VP – SALES & MARKETING*

DC'S I KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST CRISIS 1. December, 2024. Published by DC Comics, 4000 Warner Blvd., Bldg. 700, 2nd Floor, Burbank, CA 91522. GST # is R125921072. *Copyright © 2024 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dc.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dc.com/ratings.*

DC